(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how proposed changes are expected to benefit industry, consumers and Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There is no proposal for review of FDI norms for Telecom Industry at the stage.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Availability of low cost computers

102. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been taken to bring down the prices of computers; and

(b) if so, whether steps would be taken to make computers available at every nook and corner of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is facilitating the industry to make available Personal Computers (PCs) at affordable prices for the masses. Three companies have already launched PCs costing less than Rs. 10,000/- in the market.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Report of the Expert Committee on "PC Penetration, Internet and Domestic Software" set up by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Information Technology has delineated a vision for India which envisages increase in PC penetration by 2008 to the levels of 65 PCs per 1000 persons from the existing 14 PCs per 1000 persons.

Demand for additional spectrum by telecom operators

103. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that telecom operators have been demanding additional spectrum to run the service efficiently and to add more subscribers;